India with Technical support from US Scientists;

(b) whether the intellectual property, copy-rights and patent rights of the vaccines developed will be exclusively with India; and

(c) what are the financial investments in this programme by India and U.S.A:?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir, in addition to our own indigenous efforts, the development of know-how for new and improved vaccines for identified diseases under the Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme (VAP) is proposed to be developed in India with technical support from the US scientists. The Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme does not envisage any vaccine proguration programme or any other commercial activity.

(b) India would not have exclusive rights but as a partner in the Vacine Action Programme, India would have due rights to commercially exploit the results and benefit arising out of the VAP in any manner it chooses. The law relating to Intellectual property Copy-right and Patents as prevalent in India will be followed. The VAP Agrement shall fully conform to the existing patent laws of India. As far as Intellectual Property, copy-rights and patents are concerned. Memorandum of Understanding specifically provides that Rights of both countries will be protected. Indian scientists will be given due credit and rights in the results arising out of the collaborative programme under the VAP.

(c) the total project cost of the Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme for the five years project period is estimated to be equivalent of US $ 9.621 million (approx. Rs. 12.17 crores at the current exchange rate) of which US side's contribution will be US $ 7,621 million (equivalent to Rs. 9.64 crores at the current exchange rate of Rs. 12.65=$ 1) and India contribution will be of US $ 2 million (equivalent to the Rs. 3,58 crores).

Foreign allowance for IPKF

*434. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Military personnel fighting in Sri Lanka are given only one-third of the usual foreign allowance while civilians are getting as usual;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such injustice; and

(c) whether the Government of India would sanction Full Foreign Allowance to Indian Army fighting in Sri Lanka hereafter with retrospective effect?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Armed Forces Personnel deployed with the IPKF in Sri Lanka as well as the civilians assisting the IPKF are not eligible for foreign allowance. The Armed Forces Personnel are authorised expatriation allowance, as per terms and conditions of their service, at prescribed rates depending on the rank of the Military personnel, in addition to free boarding and lodging and other facilities. Civilians assisting the IPKF are paid normal Daily Allowance etc. as per their entitlement under the rules.

(c) Does not arise.